

*AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION*

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6 with:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/444,470 filed ~~Sept~~February 03, 2003 February 3, 2003, which is incorporated by reference. In addition, this application claims the benefit of European Application No. 03100154.8 filed January 27, 2003, which is also incorporated by reference.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 10 with:

It is an object of the present invention to provide a positive-working lithographic printing plate precursor which shows a high differentiation between exposed and non-exposed areas and which has a high sensitivity. These objects are realized by the material ~~in claim 1 and by the specific embodiments in the dependent claims~~ described herein.